Hazardous/polluted industrial units

635. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the hazardous/polluted industrial units functioning in the country, particularly in the metropolitan cities location-wise;

(b) the details of the legal action being taken by Government against the units releasing poisonous effluents during the production process;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board has provided the State-wise distribution of 1551 major and medium industries in the 17 identified highly polluting sectors as follows:

Andhra Pradesh, 173; Assam 15; Bihar, 62; Goa, 6; Gujarat, 177; Haryana, 43; Himachal Pradesh, 9; Jammu & Kashmir, 8; Karnataka, 85; Kerala, 28; Madhya Pradesh, 78; Maharashtra, 335; Meghalaya, 1; Orissa, 23; Punjab, 45; Rajasthan, 49; Sikkim, 1; Tamil Nadu, 119; Chandigarh, 1; Delhi, 5; Pondicherry, 6; Uttar Pradesh, 224 and West Bengal, 58.

Of the 1551 industries, 66 are located in the four metropolitan cities. The distribution of these industries is as follows:

Delhi, 5; Bombay, 40; Calcutta, 4 and Madras, 17.

The categories of industries are in the sectors of dye and dye-intermediates, pulp & paper, refineries, petrochemicals, pesticides, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, tanneries, distilleries and thermal power plants.

(b), (c) and (e): Of the 1551 industries, 220 are not complying with the prescribed standards. The State Pollution Control Boards have initiated action under the relevant Acts to ensure compliance. A notice of closure under the Environment (Production) Act, 1986 has been issued to 95 defaulting units in the country by the Central Government on 24 February, 1996,

(d) Does not arise.

Audit of Haj Accounts

636. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) Whether the Haj Committee has submitted the Audited accounts relating to the handling of the amounts of the Hajis collected for accommodation and air fare;

(b) if so, up to what date the audit has been conducted and whether the statements have been laid before Parliament, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have received complaints regarding large scale misuse of Hajis funds by the officials of Haj Committee, if so, what action has been initiated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The accounts of the Central Haj Committee are audited periodically by the Office of the Principal Director of Audit, Central, Bombay (Indian Audit and Accounts Department). The report of the audit is submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs.

(b) The latest audit was conducted in November, 1995, covering the period 1994-95. The statement of accounts is not submitted to Parliament as this is not required under the Haj Committee Act of 1959.

(c) Government is aware of some press reports in this regard but no specific complaints regarding large scale misuse of Haj funds by officials of Haj Committee have been received.

वन्जार टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज का विस्तार

637. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि

हिमाचल प्रदेश के कुल्लू जिले में वन्जार में टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज अभी भी सिंगल लाइन से देश के अन्य भागों से जुड़ा हुआ है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप टेलीफोन लाइन आसानी से नहीं मिलती; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस त्रुटि को दूर करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम): (क) हिमाचल प्रदेश के कुल्लू जिले में वन्जार टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज तीन सर्किटों से देश के अन्य भागों से जुड़ा है। तथापि, इन तीनों सर्किटों को एक ही फिजिकल एलाइनमैंट पर प्रदान किया गया है जिसमें व्यवधान उत्पन्न हो जाता है।

(ख) ज्यादा विश्वसनीय संचार की व्यवस्था करने के लिए एक आप्टिकल फाइबर केबल प्रणाली को वन्जार तथा औट के बीच मार्च/अप्रैल, 1996 तक चालू करने का प्रस्ताव है।

Removal of Garbage and Solid Waste

638. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that removal of garbage and solid waste is at present ill-managed throughout the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that big chunks of land in all the big cities of the country are lying neglected and are being used as dumping ground;

(c) whether it is also a fact many corporate houses are willing to convert these lands into green areas and also to maintain them;

(d) if so, whether Government have approached these corporate houses for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) According to an estimate about 80,000 MT per day of municipal solid waste is generated in the country. About 60% of the waste is collected and disposed off, leaving a balance of 30,000 MT garbage per day as a backlog. This uncollected solid waste fills open spaces, drains and roads causing clogging of natural drains, pollution of water sources and insanitary conditions in the urban areas.

(b) The conventional practice followed in this country for disposal of solid wastes is through sanitary landfills which are located on waste/depression lands in and around cities and these lands once reclaimed are used for various purpose like development of green belts and parks.

(c) No such proposal has been received by the Government so far.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Use of Official Language in the Central Government Offices

639. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of official language in the Ministries/Departments/Offices of the Central Government could not be ensured despite the legal provisions in this regard;

(b) whether the Ministries/Departments of Central Government could not achieve the targets fixed by the Department of Official Languages for the effective use of Hindi; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure the achievement of targets fixed by the Department of Official Languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM LAL RAHI): (a) and (b) It would not be correct to say that despite legal provisions, Ministries/Departments/Offices of the Central Govt. could not insure the use of Official Language, since the progressive use of Hindi is increasing by implementing the O.L. Policy through goodwill, inspiration and incentives. All Ministries/Departments have been making efforts to achieve the targets fixed in the Annual Programme issued by the Department of Official Language effecting improvement in the implementation of O.L. Policy.

(c) Deficiencies in achieving the fixed targets and adopting corrective measures therefor are brought to the notice of the Ministries/Departments concerned from time to time.